GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4931
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
NEW VISA REGIME
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Home Secretary, Mr. Jack Straw, during his recent visit to New Delhi discussed the new visa regime; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. During the visit of Mr. Jack Straw, British Home Secretary to New Delhi on 4-9 September 2000, the UK`s new visa regime was discussed. Mr. Straw informed the Indian side that a new visa regime `Innovators - New Pilot Scheme for Entrepreneurs` had been put into place by the UK with effect from 4 September 2000.This Pilot Scheme, which is valid until 4 September 2002 is a new category designed to attract and select entrepreneurs to set up business in UK. Another recent change in British visa practice is the introduction of the right of appeal for those refused visas for family visits and a streamlined procedure for students.